

33423638

MAT-8861US

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 06 JUL 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: To be assigned
Applicants: S. SUGIMOTO et al.
Filed: Herewith
Title: REFRIGERATOR
TC/A.U.:
Examiner:
Confirmation No.:
Docket No.: MAT-8861US

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO/SB/08a and /08b submitted herewith. Copies of the references listed are enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following references are not in the English language:

- 1) JP 1999-159941
- 2) JP 61-106785
- 3) JP 10-073362
- 4) JP 08-189752
- 5) JP 2003-287334
- 6) JP 2001-255048
- 7) JP 07-167547

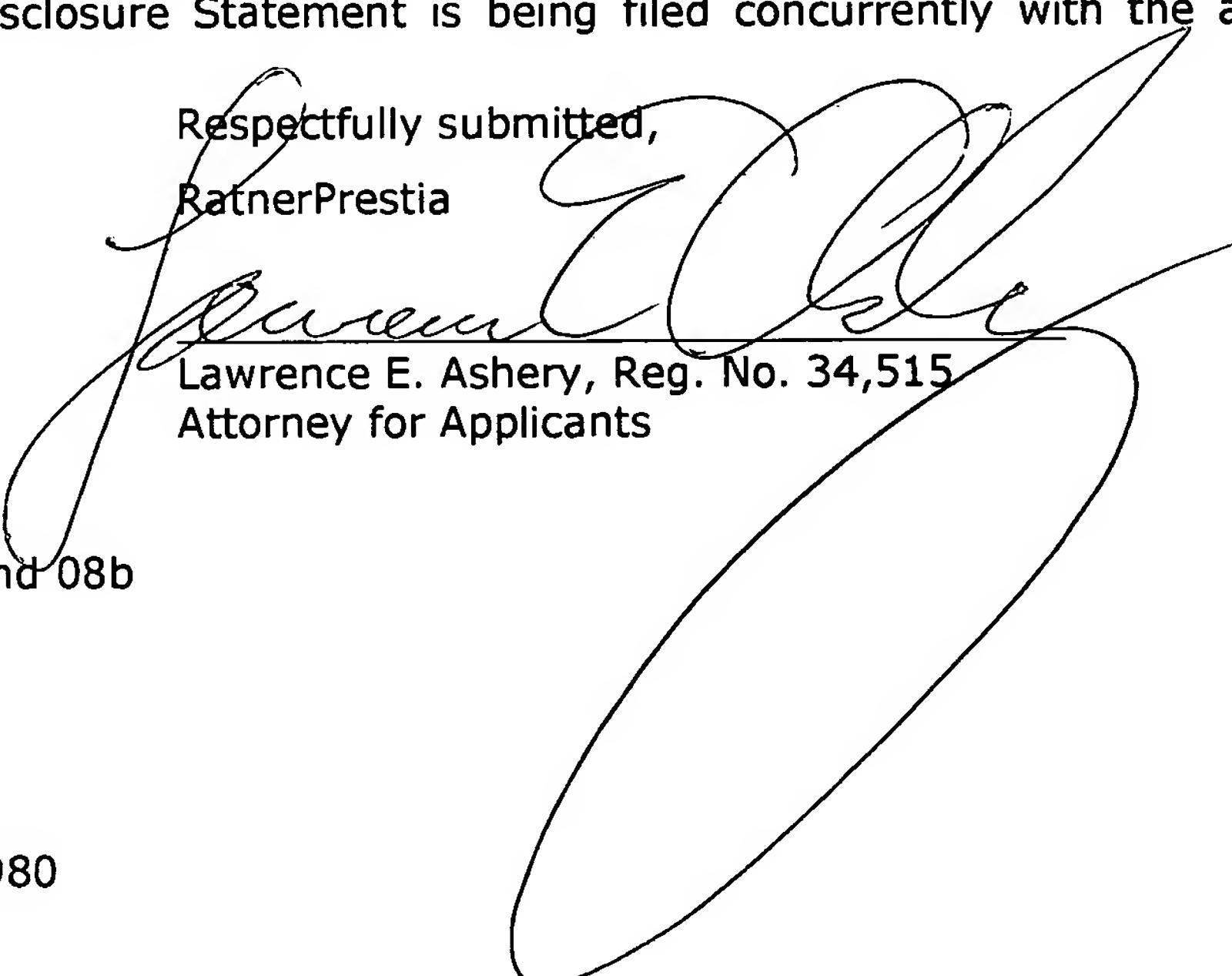
References 1) to 7) include English language abstracts and/or a partial English translation.

References 6) and 7) are not in the English language, but a "concise explanation" under 37 CFR Section 1.98(a)(3) is set forth in the background portion of the above specification on pages 1 and 2.

References 1) to 5) were cited in a search report by a foreign Patent Office in a patent application corresponding to the above-identified patent application. A copy of this search report, which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office, is transmitted herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,
RatnerPrestia


Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/bj

Enclosures: PTO/SB/08a and 08b
7 References
Search Report

Dated: July 6, 2006

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

EXPRESS MAIL Mailing Label Number: EV 792137050 US
Date of Deposit: July 6, 2006

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Dennis McDermott

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
		Application Number	To be assigned
		Filing Date	Herewith
		First Named Inventor	S. SUGIMOTO et al.
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
SHEET 1 of 2		Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8861US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP 1999-159941 (w/English Abstract)	06-15-1999	SHARP CORP.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 61-106785 (w/ partial English translation)	07-07-1986	SANYO ELECTRIC CO., LTD.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 10-073362 (w/English Abstract)	03-17-1998	SHARP CORP.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 08-189752 (w/English Abstract)	07-23-1996	MATSUSHITA REFRIG. CO., LTD.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2003-287334 (w/English Abstract)	10-10-2003	TOSHIBA CORP	<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2001-255048 (w/English Abstract)	09-21-2001	HITACHI LTD.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 07-167547 (w/English Abstract)	07-04-1995	SHARP CORP.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 2 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	To be assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	S. SUGIMOTO et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

Attorney Docket No. MAT-8861US

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		International Search Report for Corresponding International Application No. PCT/JP2005/00321 dated April 26, 2005.	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.